LMTCE-WIPT

NAVAIR Environmental Program

Programmatic Environmental, Safety and Health Evaluation

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What is a PESHE?

The Programmatic Environmental, Safety and Health Evaluation (PESHE) is a short, concise summary of the actions taken by a program to meet its environmental, safety and health (ESH) requirements. The PESHE should be conducted and first written for the Milestone 1 decision, and is updated at each successive milestone. Since its goal is to summarize on-going activities, past actions and decisions - as well as future plans related to ESH requirements - the content will naturally change as the program matures.

A program's first PESHE needs to address several things:

1. It should demonstrate that the program office has a general understanding of ESH requirements.
2. It should show the program office knows at what point in the program life cycle ESH requirements will have an impact.
3. It should present a sound plan of action and milestones and budget so that the milestone decision authority believes the appropriate level of effort will be made by the program office to meet ESH requirements.

Each successive PESHE builds on the previous one. It should start with a summary of past accomplishments, emphasizing the phase currently being completed, and then discuss the plans for meeting future ESH requirements.

Is a PESHE Required?

A PESHE is a required component of a program's acquisition strategy, per Department of Defense Regulation 5000.2-R. The purpose of a PESHE is to establish a strategy for meeting ESH requirements established in SECNAVINST 5000.2B.

It is important to recognize that conducting a PESHE is a necessary activity for a program. The report that summarizes the evaluation and resulting decisions from conducting a PESHE is a deliverable required for milestone decision submission.

Conducting a PESHE

All programs are required to conduct a PESHE regardless of their acquisition category. Although there is not an established format for a PESHE, the evaluation must address five topics:

1. The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance,
2. Environmental compliance,
3. System safety and health,
4. Hazardous materials, and
5. Pollution prevention.

The following steps will be helpful in developing your PESHE:

- **Develop a Life Cycle Outline**
  The outline of a life cycle of any weapons system will parallel acquisition phases (Concept Exploration & Definition; Program Definition & Risk Reduction; Engineering & Manufacturing Development; Production, Fielding, Deployment & Operational Support; and Demilitarization & Disposal).

- **Evaluate Potential ESH Consequences**
  With the life cycle description completed, aspects of each activity or task need to be evaluated to determine potentially adverse environmental impacts that could occur, and how programmatic or design decisions affect the safety and health of operators, maintainers, and even manufacturers.

- **Assess Likely Consequences of Program Activities**
  The third step in conducting an evaluation is assessing the significance of the identified ESH concerns. Assessing environmental consequences includes evaluating legal thresholds, determining what permits are required, and identifying any planned actionsthat will require a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analysis. Assessing safety and health consequences is accomplished by determining how likely something is to occur and how severe the consequences would be.

- **Propose Mitigation Measures**
  If environmental consequences are likely to be significant, appropriate mitigation measure need to be proposed. The most cost-effective and simplest mitigation measures are built into a program up front. Building environmental considerations into the initial design can often minimize or even eliminate potential impacts.

- **Allocation of Resources**
  With a clear understanding of required NEPA documentation, mitigation measures, and pollution prevention opportunities, a program manager can accurately allocate the necessary resources - both in terms of money and time - to meet all ESH needs.

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